láyllwild Pines Training School of Religious Education

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The accredited agency of the International Council of Religious Education in Southern California



This organization represents the united Protestant forces of Southern California for the promotion of cooperative activities in the field of Christian religious education. Its program and policy is controlled by the Executive Committee of sixty members—twenty-four selected by the twenty cooperating denominations, twenty-four elected by the State Convention, and the remaining twelve elected at large by the two groups named above.

In addition to those officially selected by the denominations, various other cooperating agencies such as the Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., P.-T.A. and United Brotherhoods appoint representatives. Thus, the Council represents a unity that is practical and rare. This accounts in large measure for the great gains in effectiveness and interest which the Council's program has enjoyed in recent years.

The Southern California Council of Religious Education is a territorial unit in a world-wide program of Christian education. The World's Sunday School Association serves the nations of the world. The International Council of Religious Education covers the United States and Canada. The Southern California Council is the accredited agency of the International Council in this field. Thirty-one Community Councils of Religious Education, strategically located throughout Southern California, are the recognized units of the Southern California Council, through which all the services of the State, International and World organizations are made immediately available to the local churches.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 1931



- 1. Leadership Training activities have reached into almost every section of the field. 45 schools and 12 classes—a total of 57—were conducted. All were of International Standard type. 3290 students were enrolled; 2344 credits were issued; a total of 249 persons served on the faculties. 72% of the students enrolled received credits—the largest percentage ever attained in Southern California.
- 2. Five Summer Schools and Camps were conducted. Three, conducted at Idyllwild Pines, were of International Standard type: Older Girls, Older Boys, and Adults—each two weeks in length. One was conducted at Pacific Palisades for adults. The Council's first Junior High School camp at Idyllwild Pines was eminently successful.
- 3. The Idyllwild Pines Summer School property was used for a longer period of time, and by more organizations, than ever before. In addition to the Council's schools and camps, the following groups were accommodated: Christian Church Young People, Epworth League Institute, Congregational Young People (two groups), Immanuel Presbyterian Church of Los Angeles, First Baptist Church of Riverside, and First Methodist Church of Los Angeles.
- 4. Vacation Church Schools in Southern California enjoyed a very large gain in enrollment, in several communities surpassing all previous records. In preparation for the Vacation work, six training institutes were conducted by the Council.
- 5. The study of Week Day Religious Education has made progress. The Long Beach demonstration center has proved the advantages of the Adjusted Time Plan. Conferences looking toward establishment of Week Day Church Schools have been held in various centers, and a number are now considering the plan and its implications. Fine progress has been made in securing inter-sectarian cooperation in this movement.
- 6. The State Convention, which was held in Glendale, made its usual contribution to the advancement of Christian education throughout Southern California.
- 7. Community Conferences and Conventions have been conducted wherever desired. Results have been most satisfactory.

- 8. Thirty-one communities in Southern California have Community Councils of Religious Education which are recognized by the Southern California Council as its accredited agencies in these localities. These Community Councils are giving permanence to all phases of cooperative Christian education.
- Children's Work has been advanced by the holding of a conference for children's division workers, the publication of bulletins and helps, and guidance to denominations and local churches in many ways.
- 10. Young People's Work has been given prominence. A Congress of Youth and Youth Conference on the Liquor Question have been promoted. Two other youth conferences have been participated in. A Youth Bulletin was issued. Conferences on young people's work have been numerous.
- 11. Church School Administration has been aided by the completion of preliminary plans for a Superintendents' Clinic, which will discuss and help solve problems of organization, administration and supervision in the local Church School.
- 12. A major Adult Work activity has been the compiling of a manual for workers with Young Married People's Classes, which will be ready soon.
- 13. The Council staff and denominational representatives have visited practically every part of the State in the interest of the Council's work, and have rendered every possible service to local communities and Church Schools.
- 14. The office cares for hundreds of requests of all kinds—for literature, for speakers, for teachers and deans of Standard Schools, for information—and hundreds of conferences with representatives of local church denominations, for the purpose of increasing the efficiency of the work.
- 15. The activities of the General Secretary and Director of Leadership Training have included visits to Community Training Schools, meetings with Community Councils, special conferences, State and Community Conventions, International Executive Committee, denominational conventions and conferences, supervising and executing the Council's business, and management of the Idyllwild Pines property and schools.
- 16. All services and standards of the International Council of Religious Education in this field are administered by the Southern California Council of Religious Education, as the accredited agency of the International Council.

FINANCES



The current budget and all financial obligations of the Council are developed by the Board of Trustees and reported to the Executive Committee for approval. The current budget for 1932 totals \$11,375.00. As compared with the current budget for 1931 of \$20,427.00, the askings for 1932 show a reduction of \$9,052.00, or 44.3 per cent. The total need for the year 1932 includes the following items:

Current Expenses . . . \$11,375.00 Completion of 1931 Budget . 3,075.00 \$14,450.00

- 1. Current Expense. The current expense budget includes such items as salaries, office rent, telephone and telegraph, printing, postage, office supplies, travel, interest, and educational expense. The latter item includes expense of conventions, support of International and World's Councils, honoraria of instructors, and the activities in Leadership Training, Field Organization, Vacation Church Schools, Week Day Church Schools, Children's Work, Young People's Work, Adult Work, and Church School Administration.
- 2. Completion of 1931 Budget. The Council carried over from 1931 a deficit of \$3,075.00 consisting of unpaid salaries to staff.

EDUCATIONAL GOALS



Each element of the activity of the Southern California Council of Religious Education is predicated upon the following sound educational goals:

- 1. To give to Christian Religious Education its rightful place in the thinking, attention and giving of the Christian people of Southern California.
- 2. To correlate the educational work of all of the participating denominations.
- 3. To prevent, as far as possible, the overlapping of effort in the field of Christian Religious Education.
- 4. To act as a clearing house for all worthy efforts to advance the cause of Christian Religious Education.
- 5. To do cooperatively many pieces of Christian educational work which cannot be done effectively by the denominations if acting independently.
- 6. To put within the reach of each Sunday School in our field the finest help and Christian fellowship of all other Sunday Schools.
- 7. To awaken the entire constituency to the imperative need of universal Christian education before character education can be adequate.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Angeles

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DENOMINATIONAL ENDORSEMENT

60

The Council Executive, composed of representatives of twenty denominations, have, upon their own volition, prepared the following statement:

"The Southern California Council of Religious Education is the servant of the denominations. It is, as it were, an instrument in the hands of the churches for accomplishing certain well-defined and very necessary taskstasks that can better be done together than separately. Indeed, if it were not for the Council, many important interests would be neglected and go by the board entirely. If we did not have it, not a week would pass before all of us would be demanding some such organization which would undertake to do just those things which we now commit to the hands of the Council. The Council fills a definite need. It is performing a very necessary and highly valuable work for all of us. The least the Churches can do is to give this servant of theirs, the Council, adequate financial assistance. Every local Sunday School will esteem it a high privilege to make its contribution. In a spirit of mutual confidence and Christian cooperation, let us together, in every practical way, give our support to this work, thus making it possible for the Council to render even a larger service for the Kingdom of God and in the name of our common Lord."



OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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